

TEXAS HEALTH CARE POLICY COUNCIL

TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS, 5TH FLOOR BOARDROOM
1000 RED RIVER STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2010
11:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nancy Dickey (Chair), Troy Alexander, Seth Chandler, Rick Danko, Alexia Green, Maureen Milligan, John Monk, Michelle Moritz, Stacey Silverman, and Jon Weizenbaum.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ann Fuelberg (Vice Chair), Larry Jones, Ronnie Jung, Dianne Longley, Scott Ransom, and Ken Shine

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Nancy Dickey called the meeting to order at 11:08. Chair Dickey welcomed the members of the Health Care Policy Council (Council) and guests, and asked Mr. Tony Gilman, Executive Officer of the Council, to take roll.

Chair Dickey advised members that Mr. Rob Kukla would be representing Ms. Fuelberg, Catherine Bingle would be representing Mr. Jones, and Ms. Katrina Daniel would be representing Ms. Longley.

REPORTS, UPDATES AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

Approval of Minutes from the October 14, 2009 Meeting

Chair Dickey asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 14, 2009 meeting. Dr. Chandler made a motion to pass the meeting minutes. Dr. Silverman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Chair Dickey asked Mr. Gilman to brief members on his new role as CEO of the Texas Health Services Authority. Chair Dickey and members congratulated Mr. Gilman.

Council Member Reports on Agency Health Care Initiatives

Chair Dickey asked members to update the Council on agency health care initiatives. Dr. Milligan, Mr. Monk, Dr. Silverman, Mr. Kukla, Mr. Weizenbaum, and Ms. Bingle all shared status updates with the Council.

Briefing on and Discussion of Nursing Faculty and Education Capacity Policy Report

Chair Dickey asked Mr. Gilman to brief members on the Nursing Faculty and Education Capacity Policy Report. Mr. Gilman updated the Council on the discussion in the morning Workforce Partnership meeting. Members discussed this item and Chair Dickey thanked Mr. Gilman for the briefing.

Briefing on and Discussion of Access to Price and Quality Information Policy Report

Chair Dickey asked Mr. Gilman to brief members on the activities of the Consumer Empowerment workgroup. Mr. Gilman discussed the February workgroup meeting with agency representatives and informed members that the Quality, Patient Safety, and Price survey had been distributed to agencies to gather information on agency collection of price and quality information. He told the Council that the workgroup decided that estimates of administrative costs for a prescription drug price comparison site and lists of usual and customary prices should be presented to the Council in July. Mr. Gilman also presented information on the Texas Health Compare website including data that shows traffic volume to the site. Members discussed the information.

Presentation by Consumers Union on Patient Safety and Quality Reporting

Chair Dickey introduced Lisa McGriffith from Consumer Reports and the Council took a brief break while Ms. McGriffith set up for her presentation. Ms. McGriffith provided the Council with her criticisms and comments on Texas Health Compare. She noted that there is a significant amount of good consumer information on the website and made several suggestions for improving access and efficacy of the site. Members discussed the presentation and thanked Ms. McGriffith for her comments.

Briefing on and Discussion of Effective Health Care Models in Texas Policy Report

Chair Dickey asked Ms. Cook to brief members on the Effective Health Care Models in Texas project. Ms. Cook discussed the methodology used to identify a group of low-cost, high-quality hospitals in the state and next steps including a hospital survey. The members discussed this item.

Discussion of House Bill 3961, 81st Texas Legislature

Chair Dickey asked Dr. Silverman to brief members on HB 3961. Dr. Silverman discussed the steps that have been taken to fulfill the charge of HB 3961 and the Council discussed this item.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Chair Dickey asked Mr. Gilman to provide members with information on the Council's schedule for 2010. Mr. Gilman informed members that tentative dates have been set for July 15 and October 14, 2010.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Dickey asked for public comment and there was none.

ADJOURN

Chair Dickey asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Ms. Bingle and seconded by Dr. Chandler. The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.